



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/614,751	07/07/2003	John A. Hicks III	60027.0181USU3/BS030002	6150

39262 7590 04/22/2005  
BELLSOUTH CORPORATION  
P.O. BOX 2903  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903

EXAMINER
----------

ADDY, ANTHONY S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2681

DATE MAILED: 04/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/614,751

Applicant(s)

HICKS ET AL.

Examiner

Anthony S Addy

Art Unit

2681

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 01/22/2004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

With respect to claim 1, applicant recites the limitation "the wired data network" on line 3 and line 5 of claim 1, however there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Examiner is considering the limitation as "a wired data network".

With respect to claim 18, applicant recites the limitation "the wired data network" on lines 4-5, line 10 and line 12 of claim 18, however there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Examiner is considering the limitation as "a wired data network".

With respect to claim 18, applicant recites the limitation "a second network" on line 14 of claim 18, however there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

Art Unit: 2681

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Gallant, U.S. Patent Number 6,259,782 (hereinafter Gallant)**.

Regarding claim 1, Gallant teaches a system for providing a single telephone number for use with a plurality of handsets (see col. 3, lines 38-51 and Fig. 2; where a network architecture for providing one number communications service to wireline and wireless subscribers is shown), the system comprising: a first network including one or more wireless access points wired to the wired data network (see col. 6, lines 35-40 and Fig. 2; where a wireless switch 130 for communicating with subscriber wireless terminals 110 and wired to data signaling network 160 constituting a first network is shown), the wireless access points operative to provide wireless access to the wired data network over an unregulated wireless connection (see col. 5, line 66 through col. 6, line 5 and col. 6, lines 21-40); one or more digital cordless handsets for communicating with the one or more wireless access points via the unregulated wireless connection in order to provide the voice and data services (see col. 5, lines 30-33, col. 5, lines 42-44 and Fig. 2; where one or more subscriber wireless terminals 110 are shown); and a second network operative to provide telecommunications services in conjunction with the one or more handsets operative for use with the second network (see col. 5, lines 46-58, col. 6, lines 6-14 and Fig. 2; where a wireline switch 120 for connecting wireline terminals, 104, 106 & 102 and connected to a public switched telephone network 140 and constituting a second network are

Art Unit: 2681

shown), and wherein a one of the one or more digital cordless handsets and a one of the one or more handsets operative for use with the second network are assigned a single telephone number (see col. 6, line 56 through col. 7, line 13).

Regarding claim 2, Gallant teaches all the limitations of claim 1. In addition, Gallant teaches a system, wherein a call directed toward the single telephone number is operative to generate a ring tone at the one of the one or more digital cordless handsets and the one of the one or more handsets for use with the second network and assigned the single telephone number (see col. 3, lines 46-51, col. 7, lines 11-13 and Gallant inherently teaches a call directed toward the single telephone number is operative to generate a ring tone at the one of the one or more digital cordless handsets, since Gallant teaches the system allows a caller to call a single telephone number for a particular subscriber which can terminate at several different devices or locations and also teaches a nearly parallel call completion to both the wireless terminal and the wireline terminal, thus increasing the probability of the call being completed to the subscriber).

Regarding claim 3, Gallant teaches all the limitations of claim 2. In addition, Gallant teaches a system, wherein the ring tone is generated substantially simultaneously at the one or more digital cordless handsets and the one of the one or more handsets assigned the single telephone number (see col. 3, lines 46-51, col. 7, lines 11-13 and col. 7, lines 23-25).

Regarding claim 4, Gallant teaches all the limitations of claim 3. In addition, Gallant teaches a system, wherein the second network comprises a

Art Unit: 2681

public switched telephone network (see col. 6, lines 6-14 and Fig. 2; where a public switched telephone network 140 is shown).

Regarding claim 5, Gallant teaches all the limitations of claim 4. In addition, Gallant teaches a system, wherein the one or more handsets comprise wired handsets connected to the public switched telephone network (see col. 5, lines 46-58, col. 6, lines 6-14 and Fig. 2; where a wireline switch 120 for connecting wireline terminals, 104, 106 & 102 and connected to a public switched telephone network 140 are shown).

Regarding claim 6, Gallant teaches all the limitations of claim 3. In addition, Gallant teaches a system, wherein the second network comprises a wireless network operative to provide wireless telecommunications on regulated wireless communications frequencies (see col. 6, lines 35-40 and Fig. 2; where a wireless switch 130 for communicating with subscriber wireless terminals 110 and wired to data signaling network 160 constituting a wireless network is shown).

Regarding claim 7, Gallant teaches all the limitations of claim 6. In addition, Gallant teaches a system, wherein the one or more handsets comprise digital cordless handsets operative for use with the second network (see col. 5, lines 30-33, col. 5, lines 42-44 and Fig. 2; where one or more subscriber wireless terminals 110 are shown communicating wirelessly through wireless switch 130).

Regarding claim 8, Gallant teaches a method for providing a single telephone number for use with a plurality of handsets (see col. 3, lines 38-51), the method comprising: assigning a single telephone number to a first handset

Art Unit: 2681

configured for use with a first telecommunications network and a second handset configured for use with a second telecommunications network (see col. 6, line 56 through col. 7, line 13 and Fig. 2; where a wireless switch 130 and wireline switch 120 wired to data signaling network 160 for communicating with wireless and wireline subscriber terminals constitute first and second telecommunications networks).

Regarding claim 9, Gallant teaches all the limitations of claim 8. In addition, Gallant teaches a method, detecting an incoming communication from a calling party to the single telephone number (see col. 9, lines 2-4 and Figures 5 & 6); and in response to detection of the incoming communication, placing outgoing communications to the first handset and the second handset (see col. 9, lines 2-26 and Figures 5 & 6).

Regarding claim 10, Gallant teaches all the limitations of claim 9. In addition, Gallant teaches a method, connecting the incoming communication to the first handset to be answered of either the first handset or the second handset (see col. 7, lines 14-25 and col. 9, lines 28-44).

Regarding claim 11, Gallant teaches all the limitations of claim 10. In addition, Gallant teaches a method, dropping each of the outgoing communications other than the outgoing communication associated with the first handset to be answered (see col. 7, lines 14-26 and col. 9, lines 11-44).

Regarding claim 12, Gallant teaches all the limitations of claim 11. In addition, Gallant teaches a method, wherein the first telecommunications network comprises one or more wireless access points wired to a wired data network (see

Art Unit: 2681

Fig. 2; where a wireless switch 130 wired to data signaling network 160 is shown), the wireless access points operative to provide wireless access to the wired data network over an unregulated wireless connection (see col. 5, line 66 through col. 6, line 5 and col. 6, lines 21-40).

Regarding claim 13, Gallant teaches all the limitations of claim 12. In addition, Gallant teaches a method, wherein the first handset comprises a digital cordless handset for communicating with the one or more wireless access points via the unregulated wireless connection (see col. 5, lines 30-33, col. 5, lines 42-44 and Fig. 2; where one or more subscriber wireless terminals 110 are shown communicating wirelessly through wireless switch 130).

Regarding claim 14, Gallant teaches all the limitations of claim 13. In addition, Gallant teaches a method, wherein the second network comprises a wireless network operative to provide wireless telecommunications on regulated wireless communications frequencies (see col. 6, lines 35-40 and Fig. 2; where a wireless switch 130 for communicating with subscriber wireless terminals 110 and wired to data signaling network 160 constituting a wireless network is shown).

Regarding claim 15, Gallant teaches all the limitations of claim 14. In addition, Gallant teaches a method, wherein the second handset comprises a digital cordless handset operative for use with the second network (see col. 5, lines 30-33, col. 5, lines 42-44 and Fig. 2; where one or more subscriber wireless terminals 110 are shown communicating wirelessly through wireless switch 130).



Regarding claim 16, Gallant teaches all the limitations of claim 13. In addition, Gallant teaches a method, wherein the second network comprises a public switched telephone network (see col. 6, lines 6-14 and Fig. 2; where a public switched telephone network 140 is shown).

Regarding claim 17, Gallant teaches all the limitations of claim 16. In addition, Gallant teaches a method, wherein the one or more handsets comprise wired handsets connected to the public switched telephone network (see col. 5, lines 46-58, col. 6, lines 6-14 and Fig. 2; where a wireline switch 120 for connecting wireline terminals, 104, 106 & 102 and connected to a public switched telephone network 140 are shown).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 18-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Gallant, U.S. Patent Number 6,259,782 (hereinafter Gallant)**, and further in view of **Kung et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,373,817 (hereinafter Kung)**.

Regarding claim 18, Gallant teaches a system for providing a single telephone number for use with a plurality of handsets (see col. 3, lines 38-51 and Fig. 2; where a network architecture for providing one number communications service to wireline and wireless subscribers is shown), the system comprising: a

Art Unit: 2681

wireless network (see Fig. 2) including one or more wireless access points wired to the wired data network (see Fig. 2; where a wireless switch 130 wired to data signaling network 160 is shown) the wireless access points operative to provide wireless access to the wired data network over an unregulated wireless connection (see col. 5, line 66 through col. 6, line 5 and col. 6, lines 21-40), one or more digital cordless handsets for communicating with the one or more wireless access points via the unregulated wireless connection in order to provide the voice and data services (see col. 5, lines 30-33, col. 5, lines 42-44 and Fig. 2; where one or more subscriber wireless terminals 110 is shown); and a second network operative to provide telecommunications services in conjunction with one or more handsets operative for use with the second network (see col. 5, lines 46-58, col. 6, lines 6-14 and fig. 2; where a wireline switch 120 for connecting wireline terminals, 104, 106 & 102 and connected to a public switched telephone network 140 is shown), and wherein a one of the one or more digital cordless handsets and a one of the one or more handsets operative for use with the second network are assigned a single telephone number (see col. 6, line 56 through col. 7, line 13).

Gallant, however, does not specifically teach a broadband residential gateway comprising a first network device for communicating with the wired data network, a second network device for providing a communications link to one or more wired network devices over a local wired network, and a wireless access point operative to provide wireless access to the wired data network over an unregulated wireless connection.

Kung, however, teaches a system comprising a broadband residential gateway configured to provide one or more integrated communication interfaces to other devices within the customer premise (business, residence, government or other locations), such as televisions (TV), personal computers (PC), plain old telephone system (POTS), video phones and IP enabled phones (see col. 4, lines 23-60 and Fig. 3; where a broadband residential gateway 300 including a telephone 308, IP enabled phone 316 are shown). According to Kung, when the broadband residential gateway is used in a business or governmental environment, it can function as a private branch exchange or key type telephone system (see col. 4, lines 57-60) and may be configured to provide the intelligence needed to allow each of the customer premises equipment devices to operate within the broadband network, for example, analog voice may be converted to digital data and packetized for transmission in an appropriate output protocol such as an Internet protocol (see col. 5, lines 5-11).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the system of Kung with the system of Gallant to include a broadband residential gateway comprising a first network device for communicating with the wired data network, a second network device for providing a communications link to one or more wired network devices over a local wired network, and a wireless access point operative to provide wireless access to the wired data network over an unregulated wireless connection for routing internet broadband communications between or among users no matter where the called party may be, and more particularly, to providing multi-network

Art Unit: 2681

access and routing among a broadband Internet Protocol Telephony Network (IPTN) and a public switched telephone network to chase called parties irrespective of their geographical locations.

Regarding claim 19, the combination of Gallant and Kung teaches all the limitations of claim 18. Gallant further teaches a system, wherein the one or more wired network devices comprise one or more digital wired handsets for communicating with the wired data network and wherein any of the wired network devices may also be assigned the single telephone number (see col. 6, line 56 through col. 7, line 13).

Regarding claim 20, the combination of Gallant and Kung teaches all the limitations of claim 19. Gallant, however, does not specifically teach a system, wherein the local wired network comprises a home phonenumber networking adapter network.

Kung, however, teaches a system comprising a broadband residential gateway configured to provide one or more integrated communication interfaces to other devices within the customer premise (business, residence, government or other locations), such as televisions (TV), personal computers (PC), plain old telephone system (POTS), video phones and IP enabled phones (see col. 4, lines 23-60, Fig. 3; where a broadband residential gateway 300 including a telephone 308, IP enabled phone 316 are shown and Fig. 4; where a broadband residential gateway 300 connected to (TV) 106, personal computer 108 and telephone 110 are shown).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the system of Kung with the system of Gallant to include a system, wherein the local wired network comprises a home phoneline networking adapter network to provide the residential subscriber with both information data (for example, through an Ethernet interface), telephony access, and bidirectional TV service (for example, HDTV, Digital TV and/or CATV services) as taught by Kung (see col. 25, lines 15-25).

Regarding claim 21, the combination of Gallant and Kung teaches all the limitations of claim 20. Gallant further teaches a system, wherein a call directed toward the single telephone number is operative to generate a ring tone at the one of the one or more digital cordless handsets and the one of the one or more handsets for use with the second network and assigned the single telephone number (see col. 3, lines 46-51 and col. 7, lines 11-13).

Regarding claim 22, the combination of Gallant and Kung teaches all the limitations of claim 21. Gallant further teaches a system, wherein the ring tone is generated substantially simultaneously at the one of the one or more digital cordless handsets and the one of the one or more handsets assigned the single telephone number (see col. 3, lines 46-51, col. 7, lines 11-13 and col. 7, lines 23-25).

Regarding claim 23, the combination of Gallant and Kung teaches all the limitations of claim 22. Gallant further teaches a system, wherein the second network comprises a public switched telephone network (see col. 6, lines 6-14 and Fig. 2; where a public switched telephone network 140 is shown).

Regarding claim 24, the combination of Gallant and Kung teaches all the limitations of claim 23. Gallant further teaches a system, wherein the one or more handsets comprise wired handsets connected to the public switched telephone network (see col. 5, lines 46-58, col. 6, lines 6-14 and Fig. 2; where a wireline switch 120 for connecting wireline terminals, 104, 106 & 102 and connected to a public switched telephone network 140 are shown).

Regarding claim 25, the combination of Gallant and Kung teaches all the limitations of claim 22. Gallant further teaches a system, wherein the second network comprises a wireless network operative to provide wireless telecommunications on regulated wireless communications frequencies (see col. 6, lines 35-40 and Fig. 2; where a wireless switch 130 for communicating with subscriber wireless terminals 110 and wired to data signaling network 160 constituting a wireless network is shown).

Regarding claim 26, the combination of Gallant and Kung teaches all the limitations of claim 25. Gallant further teaches a system, wherein the one or more handsets comprise digital cordless handsets operative for use with the second network (see col. 5, lines 30-33, col. 5, lines 42-44 and Fig. 2; where one or more subscriber wireless terminals 110 is shown).

### ***Conclusion***

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Dougherty et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,141,556 discloses telecommunications system with multi-extension services.

Art Unit: 2681

Marangos, U.S. Publication Number 2005/0070272 A1 discloses dual-radio cellular telephone and method of operation.

Akheteruzzaman et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,449,483 discloses wireless telephone system for accessing multiple stations via a single telephone number.

Bushnell et al., U.S. Publication Number 2004/0229634 A1 discloses system for providing unified cellular and wire-line service to a dual mode handset.

Grundvig et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,434,394 discloses multiple handset cordless telephone including a ring signal/call routing module.

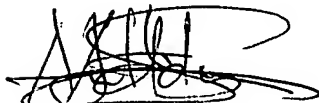
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthony S Addy whose telephone number is 571-272-7795. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur 8:00am-6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel L Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

Art Unit: 2681

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Anthony S. Addy  
April 18, 2005



ERIKA A. GARY  
PRIMARY EXAMINER